

REMARKS

Claims 1-15, 17-19 and 21-27 were rejected by the Examiner in the Office Action dated 24, 2008. Claims 1-27 are canceled without prejudice. New claims 28-35 are added. The new claims are fully supported by the specification, at e.g. paragraphs [0200]-[0202] and no new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-15, 17-19, and 21-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,902,983 to Crevelt et al. ("Crevelt ") in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0031663 to Johnson ("Johnson").

It is respectfully submitted that new claims 28-35 are not taught or rendered obvious by Crevelt in combination with Johnson. More specifically, Johnson and the other art of record fail to teach or render obvious at least the claim 28 limitations to "(a) determine an amount of a wager made by the player at one or more of the plurality of gaming devices; (b) place a limit on an amount won from the wager; (c) determine an amount won from the wager and compare the amount won to the limit on the amount won; and (d) if the amount won exceeds the limit, prevent the player from continuing to play at the machine where the wager was made and other of the plurality of gaming machines in communication with the financial host over the communication network." It is submitted that new independent claim 31 is similarly not taught by the art of record.

Information Disclosure Statement

A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed herewith. It is respectfully requested that this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be considered and the PTO Form 1449 be initialed and returned with the next Action.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and an early indication of its allowance is solicited. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application; the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
Weaver Austin Villeneuve & Sampson LLP

/Peter Mikhail/

Peter G. Mikhail
Reg. No. 46,930

P.O. Box 70250
Oakland, CA 94612-0250
510-663-1100